

RAILWAYS PLEDGE COAL CAR RETURN

Carriers Quickly Comply With Order of Interstate Commerce Commission.

EAST IN FULL ACCORD

Big Lines Admit Seriousness of Situation and Give Immediate Orders.

Louisville, Ky., Nov. 13.—Assurances that they had begun the return of all foreign coal cars held on their lines to the owners roads were received today by C. C. McChord, Interstate Commerce Commission, from practically every large railroad in the United States.

The return of this equipment was demanded by Commissioner McChord yesterday following representation by railroads present at the hearings that such a measure would provide the quickest means of relieving the coal shortage from which various sections of the country have been suffering.

The cooperation of the Eastern roads in returning all foreign coal car equipment on their lines to the owners roads was announced today by C. C. McChord, Interstate Commerce Commission, from practically every large railroad in the United States.

Mr. McChord, speaking for his associates, said: "I would announce that we consider the situation a very serious one, and that we are taking the necessary steps to bring about a prompt and effective action. I wish to state that the Eastern railways are in full accord with the order of the commission for the return of cars to the owner companies at the earliest possible moment, and we pledge the fullest measure of cooperation in carrying it out."

UNION PACIFIC SHY.

Seventy-five Per Cent. of Its Cars in Use on Eastern Roads.

Louisville, Neb., Nov. 13.—The Union Pacific Railroad has at present only 25 per cent. of its freight cars available for its use, the others 75 per cent. being in the hands of the Eastern roads, principally those of the East, according to a report filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission here today. Of the cars, only 3,652 are being used on the road, only 3,652 are available in this State.

The Railway Commission is attempting to find the cause of a decade.

Placed at 108,010.

The largest car shortage in this country in nearly a decade existed on November 1 last, when there was reported to the American Railway Association a net shortage of 108,010 freight cars. This figure in recent years has exceeded only by the shortage of 137,447 cars, which occurred on February 6, 1915, the present shortage compares with an actual net surplus on August 1 of 9,762 cars. The number of freight cars owned by the railroad increased from 1,991,557 to 2,447,178 from July 1, 1907, to July 1, 1916, or about 23 per cent.

Figures compiled by this association show that in 1917, there was a continuous net surplus of cars not only in 1917, but also in 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 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